

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 038903

EXDIS-DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

(LATE ITEM: FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY CROSLAND DIED
TODAY AT THE AGE OF 58, THE FOREIGN OFFICE ANNOUNCED.)

1. THE NEXT FOREIGN SECRETARY

EMBASSY LONDON REPORTS THAT PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN HAS
DECIDED TO NAME A NEW FOREIGN SECRETARY BY NEXT TUESDAY
WHATEVER THE CONDITION OF ANTHONY CROSLAND, WHO REMAINS IN
A COMA. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES CALLAGHAN WILL MAKE PUBLIC
ON MONDAY A LETTER FROM MRS. CROSLAND ASKING THAT A SUC-
CESSOR BE NAMED, AND ON TUESDAY ANNOUNCE HIS CHOICE TO THE
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PAGE 02 STATE 038903

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CALLAGHAN HAS REPORTEDLY ALREADY DECIDED WHOM HE WILL NAME.
SINCE CHANCELLOR HEALEY APPEARS TO HAVE MADE THE DIFFICULT
DECISION TO REMAIN AT THE TREASURY, THE CHOICE WILL LIKELY
BE EITHER PETER SHORE OR MERLYN REES. SHORE IS CHARACTER-
IZED BY THE EMBASSY AS A MAN WHO HATES FOREIGNERS; EURO-

PEANS IN PARTICULAR MIGHT FIND IT DISTASTEFUL TO DEAL WITH HIM SINCE HE WAS AMONG THE BITTEREST OPPONENTS OF BRITISH ENTRY INTO THE EC. REES, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS DESCRIBED

AS A CALLAGHAN PROTEGE WHO DID A GOOD JOB AS PROCONSUL IN NORTHERN IRELAND BEFORE BECOMING HOME SECRETARY. REES IS ALSO KNOWN TO BE WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THE US. (CONFIDENTIAL) LONDON 2923 (EXDIS), 2/18.)

2. CHINA ANXIOUS FOR EC TRADE PACT

THE PRC AMBASSADOR TO THE EC LAST WEEK REQUESTED "URGENT" RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSIONS ON A TRADE AGREEMENT. AMBASSADOR HUAN HSIANG BLAMED LACK OF PROGRESS OVER THE PAST YEAR ON THE "GANG OF FOUR" AND SAID THERE WAS NO LONGER ANY OBSTACLE TO SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON THE EC'S NOVEMBER 1974 OFFER OF A STANDARD FRAMEWORK TRADE AGREEMENT.

ACCORDING TO OUR MISSION TO THE EC, COMMUNITY OFFICIALS BELIEVE THIS SUDDEN MOVE BY THE CHINESE WAS STIMULATED BY MOSCOW'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT WOULD BE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE A FISHING AGREEMENT WITH THE NINE. THE OFFICIALS PREDICT THAT THE TWO REMAINING DIFFICULTIES IN THE EC/PRC NEGOTIATIONS, MOST-FAVORED-NATION STATUS AND SAFEGUARD CLAUSES, CAN BE QUICKLY OVERCOME. (CONFIDENTIAL) EC BRUSSELS 1543, 2/17.)

3. FRG EMBASSY IN KAMPALA SEES REPRESSION WIDENING

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PAGE 03 STATE 038903

EMBASSY BONN HAS OBTAINED A REPORT FROM THE FRG EMBASSY IN KAMPALA CONCERNING THE DEATHS OF ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP LUWUM AND TWO CABINET OFFICIALS FEBRUARY 16. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER THERE WAS ACTUALLY A COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST AMIN JANUARY 25, BUT THERE IS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE THAT THE THREE OFFICIALS WERE MURDERED ON AMIN'S ORDERS RATHER THAN DYING IN A CAR ACCIDENT AS CLAIMED. THE FRG EMBASSY EXPECTS THE REGIME TO TAKE FURTHER REPRESSIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES AND THE TRIBE OF FORMER UGANDA PRESIDENT MILTON OBOTE. IT DESCRIBES THE UGANDAN POPULATION AS COMPLETELY INTIMIDATED. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) BONN 3034 AND 3067, 2/18.)
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